## AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 15, line 21 as follows

If all the information can be acquired, then intermediate device providing service management unit 203 acquires the information, generates transfer rules for appropriately transferring communication packets from the acquired information and settings specified by the operator, and registers the transfer rules in packet transfer control unit 202 (ste0 step S4). At this time, however, the transfer rules are simply registered, but not effective yet.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 35, line 6 as follows:

A second embodiment in which the intermediate device according to the present invention is applied to an NLM (Network Lock Manger Manager) protocol environment will be described below. The contents of the intermediate device providing services are the same as those of the first embodiment

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